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ICRS-M-5-69

20 March 1969

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IMAGERY COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS SUBCOMMITTEE OF COMIREX

NRO review(s) completed.

MINUTES OF MEETING

10:00 - 15:30 Wednesday, 26 February 1969

PRESIDING

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Chairman

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Deputy Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT

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Mr. J. Urban, ONI

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Office of the Chairman:

Mr. J. C. St. Cyr, OACSI
Lt. Col. N. D. Thurman, AFNIN

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CONSULTANTS PRESENT

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OBSERVERS PRESENT

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Lt. Cdr. J. Babb, ONI

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* During the South China/North Vietnam Priority List discussion only.

Group I

Excluded from automatic down-
grading and declassification

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the 19 February meeting were approved with minor additions and editorial changes, although a lengthy discussion on the EXSUBCOM paper "Program for Planning the Exploitation of Reconnaissance Imagery - FY 1970-FY 1974" evolved. It concluded with agreement that ICRS will develop inputs to the COMIREX Scheduling Task Team efforts to develop a long range schedule. Members will forward, by next meeting, to the Chairman, considerations that should be addressed in the ICRS paper. The Chairman will consolidate these inputs into a draft paper for future discussion.

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CUBA

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3. [] noted the CUBA standdown during President Nixon's overseas trip is in effect, and consequently it would be difficult, but not impossible, to meet the USIB area requirement of 90% coverage between the end of the standdown, 4 March, and the end of the current 56 day reporting period, 16 March. It currently stands at 53%.

1106 MISSION REVIEW

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4. [] provided the Committee with a operational resume of Mission 1106. Highlights of his presentation:

a. Exceptionally good weather prevailed during the entire mission which resulted in total film expenditure against COMIREX requirements in 9 days.

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b. Film was expended primarily on holiday and Priority 1 HPA's plus the Middle East.

c. Climatology would indicate 28% cloud-free area but actual weather encountered was 44% cloud-free.

d. 58 HPA's were attempted.

e. Film Expenditure

Search	40.4%
HPA's	36.4%
Priority 2 and Middle East	6.9%
M&C	3.8%
R&D/Engineering	12.2%

5. [] noted that the unusual large amount of film expended for R&D/Engineering was because this was the first use of the new Digital Shift Register Programmer and required additional engineering operations.

6. [] asked if the NRO could provide film expenditure on future missions as a routine matter. [] felt this was possible but would first coordinate it with the Director, SOC.

SATELLITE SCHEDULE

7. [] reported the launch schedule as shown below:

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CORONA

1050 - 19 Mar 69

1051 - 14 May 69

1107 - 23 Jul 69

SOUTH CHINA/NORTH VIETNAM PRIORITY LIST

8. A discussion of the addition of the 204 targets in NVN to the South China/North Vietnam Priority List evolved.

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[] stated the 204 targets had been proposed as a new expression of the NVN priority target list and were consistent with the USIB requirements for reconnaissance during a bombing halt.

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[] inquired if these targets could be handled similar to the Cuban targets, i. e. assign a COMIREX number and selectively assign them a collection priority.

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[] felt this would not be satisfactory and that they should be recognized in the same way the current NVN priority list is to allow full collection action.

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[] reminded the Committee that we are fast approaching the 9999 collection target limitation imposed by the NRO software. Col.

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[] stated this should not be a limiting factor to our target deck size.

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[] stated that he felt the proper approach would be to propose a National Reconnaissance program that would implement Plan A of the CCPC "Collection During a Bombing Halt" plan.

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[] stated that we presently have the authority, need and means of keeping track of National requirements utilizing the COMIREX targeting procedures and that we should proceed.

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[] reminded the Committee that the present NVN priority list is closely tied to possible Chinese involvement and that the DIA proposal should

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be divorced from the present priority list. He stated that the CIA would concur to assignment of COMIREX numbers to the DIA target list subject to the understanding that:

a. Such action would facilitate DIA and other DoD planning of imagery collection over NVN by manned and drone reconnaissance assets.

b. Such action would not represent either any change at this time in COMIREX/USIB approved statements of requirements for reconnaissance over NVN, as presently recorded, or any revised expression of priorities or frequency coverage of NVN from the national intelligence community point of view.

c. Such action was inapplicable as guidance for the satellite collection programs.

d. These objectives should also be addressed by the EXSUBCOM from the exploitation point of view.

The Committee concurred in adding these targets to the target file and the ICRS Staff will take action to assign COMIREX numbers.

NOTE: During this discussion there was an obvious misunderstanding of the action being considered. The DIA member understood the discussion related to the addition of the 200 plus targets to the NVN priority list while the CIA member understood the discussion related to the addition of the 200 plus NVN targets to the COMIREX file. The action taken by the ICRS Staff is as reflected in the preceding paragraph. To clarify the record the understanding of the DIA member of the action taken follows:

/The Chairman questioned the CIA member as to whether or not this statement represented a non-concurrence in the DIA proposal to substitute the 200 plus Target Bombing Cessation List for the present High Priority List. Mr. [] said that the statement was self explanatory. [] noted that since specific non-concurrence on the DIA proposal was not registered by any member, he would proceed on the assumption that the Bombing Cessation List was acceptable to all the members as a replacement for the current List. /

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SAWRFs PAPER

10. The Committee discussed the paper published by the Science Intelligence Committee (SIC) and concluded that:

a. As a statement of SIC's requirements to possibly solve the riddle of the SAWRFs it had merit, but that it did not appear feasible to satisfy the requirements within the present systems capabilities. ICRS would, however, request NPIC to report on the stated requirements in terms of present camera system capabilities.

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NEW MC&G CRITERIA

11. The NRO addressed the new MC&G criteria which now accepts outside the Sino/Soviet Bloc a 2,500 sq NM minimum area vice 10,000 sq NM in terms of operational impact. The NRO representative assured the Committee this will not have an impact in their operational procedures whereby they would intentionally program such a small area other than satisfying some of the small "slivers" of MC&G requirements that are less than 10,000 sq NM and as such had not been programmed in the past.

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TARGET FILE UPDATE

12. WTS's 23 thru 39 were reviewed and the following actions approved:

Additions	-	63
Deletes	-	31
Changes	-	11
Reactivations	-	1
Inactivations	-	27

Two actions were left in a pending status subject to further DIA review.

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Deputy Chairman
Imagery Collection Requirements
Subcommittee

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IMAGERY COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS SUBCOMMITTEE OF COMIREX

AGENDA

10:00, 25 February 1969, Room 2G 24, Hdqs.

1. Approval of Minutes - 19 February Meeting.
2. Satellite Schedule - SAFSS
3. South China/North Vietnam Priority List.
(ICRS-D-6/18-1)
4.  Readout Requirements.
5. 1106 Priorities Review/Operational Impact - SAFSS
6. Photographic Collection Requirements for Improved
Analysis of the SAWRFs -  14 Feb 69)
7. Update COMIREX Target File.
8. Other Business.

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